USDA/RuralDevelopment

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News Release

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USDA ANNOUNCES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE MANVILLE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

Coupland, Texas, November 14, 2002 – Bryan Daniel, state director, Texas USDA Rural Development announced today that the Manville Water Supply Corporation received a \$9,500,000 loan through the agency's Rural Utilities Service Water and Wastewater program. The effort is part of USDA's national program to help provide rural areas with, safe, dependable water and modern sewage systems.

"One of the goals of the USDA Rural Development is to provide water and wastewater treatment programs that target public health benefits and provide economic opportunities to America's rural communities," said Daniel. "Rural residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance the quality of life."

The funds will be used to develop a 2 million gallon per day ground water well field in Lee County. A water treatment facility for removing iron and manganese will also be constructed. Approximately 42 miles of transmission lines, along with related booster pumps and storage, will be constructed to deliver water throughout the system. Population served by this project is 20,000.

In Fiscal Year 2002, \$91.7 million of loan and grant assistance was infused into 61 projects and 106,000 rural Texas households. USDA's water and wastewater program is designed to bring fresh, clean drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities of fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operated on a nonprofit basis, and Indian tribes, that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms, are eligible for assistance.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Hillsboro Local office at (254) 582-7328, Ext. 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

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The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

For more information on Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.

